DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 413 567 CG 028 178

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| AUTHOR | B., Sally; B., David |
| TITLE | Our Children are Alcoholics: Coping with Children Who Have Addictions. |
| ISBN | ISBN-1-888461-02-0 |
| PUB DATE | 1997-00-00 |
| NOTE | 174p.; "The authors wish to remain anonymous in accordance with the tried and true tradition of Al-Anon." |
| AVAILABLE FROM | Islewest Publishing, Carlisle Communications, 4242 Chavenelle Rd., Dubuque, IA 52002; phone: 800-557-9867 ($13.95). |
| PUB TYPE | Books (010) -- Guides - Non-Classroom (055) |
| EDRS PRICE | Document Not Available from EDRS. |
| DESCRIPTORS | Adolescents; Alcohol Education; *Alcoholism; Child Behavior; Children; *Coping; *Drug Addiction; *Family Problems; Helping Relationship; Parent Attitudes; *Parent Child Relationship; *Social Support Groups; Stress Management; Well Being |
| IDENTIFIERS | *Al Anon; Codependency |

ABSTRACT

This book provides numerous stories of parents' encounters with their children's addictions and what the parents did to come to terms with the disease. Part 1 offers four separate accounts describing the authors' experience with addiction in their four adult children, followed by each child's interpretation of events. In part 2, addictive diseases are discussed, along with their known effects on families, friends, and coworkers. Stories by parents and addicted children are featured in part 3, illustrating a variety of family constellations. The parents tell in their own words how they found their way to serenity in the midst of turmoil. Many found help in Al-Anon, in their churches, in therapy groups, or in other support settings. The last part lists resources, including a bibliography, community resources, audiovisuals, catalogs, and a glossary. It is emphasized that the single most common denominator of parental recovery was membership in a group that both understood the parent's experiences and provided the tools to adjust to the situation. (RJM)

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